



# Ø BEAT

COLO. SPRINGS,  
COLORADO

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MEETING NOTICE - Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association will meet this month on May 12th at 7:30 P.M. in the Security Savings & Loan Building, East Platte at Union Boulevard. Any person interested in Amateur radio is invited to attend.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER by Bill Croghan, WBØKSW: This month's (April) hidden transmitter hunt with Dick, K6DBR/Ø hiding the transmitter was a winner! Smitty, WBØLTV with Louis, WØPCZ riding, took first place. Second place went to the team of WAØNBZ, WBØKSW and WNØPNX with harmonic, Kim helping. (Kim has passed her Novice code test). Smitty hides this month, with the hunt starting at 1:00 P.M. on May 30th. Join us! If you think you need fancy equipment, our team took second with a simple loop and tuneable receiver! 146.52 MHz is the frequency.

My Icom IC-22A was stolen from my car the other night in 45 minutes while I was parked in a bowling alley parking lot. Another local ham lost his in a restaurant parking lot the week before. Get in the habit of locking the rig in the trunk or carrying it in with you.

The "Novice" classes are into the General level now. New Novice Classes will start about October. See you at the meeting! 73's, Bill, WBØKSW.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS - Articles for ZERO BEAT are still being brought or mailed to the editor's old address, resulting in delays and in some articles arriving too late to be published. Please note the new address on Page 2 - actually this has been in effect since January of this year - and make sure all correspondence goes to this address.

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EXTRA CLASS LICENSEES who've been on the air at least 25 years will be the first to have their choice of open call signs as a result of FCC's Report and Order on Docket 20092 released in mid-April. The Report and Order, which becomes effective July 1, gives first priority to Extra Class licensees already eligible for a one-by two (e.g., K1AA) callsign for a three-month period.

# ZERO BEAT

Published in the interest of the members  
likes Peak Radio Amateur Association,  
Colorado Springs, Colorado

R. es Smith, WAØZZS  
Editor, Phone 635-7353



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Phone 591-1723

The PPRAA meets at 7:30 P.M. on the second  
Wednesday of each month in the Security  
Savings & Loan Building, East Platte at  
Union Boulevard.

## PPRAA DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	
Bill Croghan	WBØKSW
1030 W. Colorado Ave.	471-7504
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Chuck Myers	WAØZCS
1120 Yosemite Dr.	632-0848
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2732 E. Monument	475-8650
Bob Tate	WBØJTZ
4523 Palmer Park	596-5002

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starting July 1. Then, after all those eligible during the first period  
have exercised their options (if they wished to) a second group, which in-  
cludes all additional Extra Class licensees who were licensed as Extra Class  
by November 22, 1967, will be eligible to apply for the remaining callsigns  
of their choice.

Two additional three-month periods, the first for all who received their  
Extras on or before July 2, 1974 and the final for those who were Extras by  
July 1, 1976 follow. After that, presumably, any Extra Class licensee no  
matter how short a time he's been licensed will be able to apply for the  
available callsign of his choice.

### HR REPORT

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APRIL MINUTES by Bart Hayhurst, WAØYOH, Secretary: The April meeting of  
PPRAA was held on April 14, 1976 at the Security Savings and Loan Building  
at Union and Platte. The meeting was called to order by the President, Bill  
Croghan, WBØKSW at 7:40 P.M. with 38 members and guests attending.....Trea-  
surer report by Dean Jaynes, WAØPJH was that we made \$124.34 on the recent  
Swapfest, bringing a smile to Dean's face and resulting in a treasury balance  
of \$393.83.....Field Day was reported on by Ken Hull, WBØNOS who stated that  
Mike Stansberry, WBØHCK would operate a CW station; Charles Waltman, WAØNBZ  
a phone or CW station; Lyle Rockefeller, WBØMDI a phone station and Bart Hay-  
hurst, WAØYOH a phone station. Food is being taken care of by Ken on Satur-  
day evening and Sunday morning. A fee of \$3.00 was decided on.....Chuck

Myers, WA0ZCS reported on the 1976 ARRL Convention. A repeater on a balloon will be put up on 16/76 during the convention by the Rocky Mountain V.H.F. Society of Boulder. A lot of door prizes to be given away during the convention to be held on July 16, 17 and 18th.....Chuck, WA0WBZ reported an enrollment in the Novice school of 30 and that ten have passed their Novice test.....Dick Cohen, K6DBR/Ø reported the last fox hunt was a great success. He also gave a report on the Confederate Air Force and the Blue Knights who will be on display and performing at Peterson Field on July 3rd and 5th.....Lyle, WBØMDI reported on 37/97 net. He is looking for comments next meeting for a possible better time.....The program was a documentary film on the Chicago telephone Building Fire.....Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

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INVITING CBERS TO PARTICIPATE in Amateur Radio activities is being considered by a number of clubs and is an excellent way to recruit potential Amateurs and new club members. It's not too early to involve some CBers in your Field Day plans, and Field Day is a perfect opportunity to show them the "fun" side of Amateur Radio!

HR REPORT

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VALUABLE WEATHER WARNING SYSTEM is employed by the WRØACK repeater in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Four short beeps every 45 seconds while the machine is up indicates a weather watch or warning, while a severe thunderstorm announcement is preceded by a five second tone burst and the announcement of a tornado by two five second bursts. A useful system, capable of alerting both casual listeners and selective tone monitors.

HR REPORT

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ARRL'S REPRESENTATIVE for its forum at the recent Dayton Hamvention was League General Manager Dick Baldwin, W1RU. Dick spoke at some length on WARC and echoed Ray Spence's hopes for improvement in Amateur Radio's HF spectrum. However, Dick's pretty concerned that we're in lots of trouble with VHF/UHF competition, particularly with Aeronautical's request for 146-148 MHz. He's pleased with our rapport with other ITU nations through the IARU, which will help a lot in 1979.

Amateur Radio in the U.S. is showing a good growth rate after a 4-5 year static period, Dick noted, and the CB fallout probably accounts for a good part of the boost. ARRL's expanded training program should be ready for test and evaluation in June with a target date of September for formal introduction. Hopes are for an automatic license for successful course graduates, possible



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with an "instant" license like CB. He showed slides of a mockup of "Tune In The World With Ham Radio," a 140-page book with code cassette targeted to sell for \$7.00 as part of the training program. ARRL's intent is to get the FCC to OK the concept of the program, not the actual materials, so any supplier's training materials could be used (he mentioned Heath is working on a course). In response to a question from the floor Dick stated that the League expects FCC "approval" of the training concept quite soon, perhaps in a month or so, though even if approval isn't forthcoming the program will still continue. ARRL is working up a new 10 minute promo film for Amateur Radio for use at CB club meetings and jamborees -- a number of which are now being attended by League staffers seeking recruits.

The ARRL itself is in mighty good shape, too -- as of the end of March League membership reached 125,433 and the print order for July QST will probably be 150,000 copies!

HR REPORT

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HAMBURGLARS may be listening, so don't give your specific location when leaving your car unattended at shopping centers, theatres, or restaurants. The same warning goes for your home station -- don't talk about leaving your home for a vacation where others may be listening with paper and pencil in hand -- tell about your vacation after you return!

LEARA REPEATER NEWSLETTER

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RCA WILL STOP TUBE PRODUCTION and close its historic Harrison, New Jersey plant July 30th. However, RCA will continue to make some types overseas and

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SOME ITEMS THAT WE HAVE ALREADY ARRANGED TO STOCK ARE: THE FULL YAESU LINE, ATLAS 210 & 215, ICOM, HAM II ROTORS, ROHN TOWERS, LARSEN ANTENNAS, AND SPECTRONICS DIGITAL READOUTS. DUE TO THE U.P.S. STRIKE SOME OF THE ABOVE ITEMS HAVE NOT ARRIVED AS EXPECTED. MOST OTHER BRANDS CAN BE OBTAINED ON SPECIAL ORDER.

WE HAVE THE EQUIPMENT TO SERVICE MOST BRANDS OF AMATEUR GEAR. TOM, OUR TECHNICIAN IS THOROUGHLY EXPERIENCED IN RADIO REPAIR.

SO PLEASE STOP BY AND LET'S GET ACQUAINTED.

CHAS BARRETT, WBØOCJ, SALES MNGR.  
DAVE MILLER, OWNER  
TOM SMARTT, TECHNICIAN

buy others from other makers so does plan to continue as a major tube supplier for some time to come. RCA is also giving up the manufacture of TV and appliance service equipment, selling those product lines to VIZ.

HR REPORT

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TRIO-KENWOOD'S TS-820 is a new and very sophisticated 160-10 meter transceiver that was shown at Dayton for the first time. The "Pacesetter" has such versatile features as an RF speech compressor, optional digital frequency read-out with a "hold" for remembering a frequency for later reference, RF monitoring sidetone, IF shift and RF negative feedback. Options include a plug-in DC power supply for mobile operation and an external VFO. Base price of the TS-820 is \$830 with early summer delivery promised. Heath introduced two interesting new products at the Hamvention. The HR-1680 is a modular design plug-in PCB Amateur band only receiver with selectable filters for SSB and CW reception. Replacing the HR-10, it'll sell for \$199.95. VHF mobile operators will welcome Heath's "Micoder," which combines a conventional sized mobile mike with a compact TT pad mounted on its back. The pad is powered from a built-in 9 volt battery so the "Micoder" should be usable with almost any mobile rig -- it'll sell for \$49.95.

HR REPORT

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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR AMATEURS for the 1976-77 school year are again being offered by the Foundation for Amateur Radio. Two of the scholarships pay \$750 each while the other is for \$250. Any Amateur resident in the U.S. and holding a General Class or higher Amateur license is eligible -- those interested should request an application form from the Chairman, Scholarship Committee, 8101 Hampden Lane, Bethesda, Md 20014. Requests must be postmarked prior to June 1, 1976.

HR REPORT

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SUMMERTIME PROPAGATION CONDITIONS are just starting to make themselves known with longer open hours on 14 MHz and up but corresponding shorter long haul periods on 7 MHz and down. The DX chaser's choice will remain 14 MHz, where lengthening daily periods of worthwhile long haul openings will make the band lively during twilight periods. 1.8 and 3.5 MHz buffs shouldn't give up their favorites, though, providing they can stand the static.

HR REPORT

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FCC STUDY GUIDES for both Novice Class and General/Conditional/Technician Class Amateur exams have just been released by the FCC. Though they are very general in scope the guides would be a useful tool for anyone planning to take an FCC Amateur exam. Copies of the study guides are not available from the FCC but will be from Ham Radio. Send an SASE with 24¢ postage for each guide and be sure to specify which you want -- then allow about two weeks for us to have them printed.

HR REPORT

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WRITTEN CW TESTS are likely to be with us for some time to come despite the recent relaxation of the rules to permit code "comprehension" exams. The new procedures still haven't been firmed up, and even after they are it will take a while before new tapes and matching examinations can be produced and distributed. The change should take place some time this year, though -- late fall seems likely.

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